

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 02959 171457Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 /047 W
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R 171450Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5622

UNCLAS ALGIERS 2959

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, AG
SUBJECT: ALGERIAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

1. DECEMBER 16 PRESS REPORTS THAT ALGERIAN COUNCILS OF REVOL-
UTION AND MINISTERS MET DECEMBER 15 AND STUDIED DRAFT ORDINANCE
ON NATIONAL POPULAR ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS. DRAFT CONTAINS
FOLLOWING PROVISIONS:

A. NATIONAL POPULAR ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS WILL TAKE PLACE FEBRUARY 4.

B. EACH DAIRA WILL CONSTITUTE ELECTORAL CONSTITUENCY.
COMMENT: DAIRA IS SECOND LEVEL OF ALGERIAN PROVINCIAL
ADMINISTRATION, FALLING BENEATH WILAYA (PROVINCE).

C. DAIRAS WITH POPULATION OF 80,000 WILL HAVE ONE
SEAT IN ASSEMBLY. IN OTHER DAIRAS, THERE WILL BE ONE SEAT
PER 80,000 ELECTORS.

D. IN ALL CONSTITUENCIES, FLN WILL PRESENT NUMBER OF
CANDIDATES DOUBLE THAT OF SEATS TO BE CONTESTED.

2. COMMENT: WE DOUBT THAT FINAL VERSION OF
THIS ORDINANCE WILL DIFFER SIGNIFICANTLY FROM DRAFT SUMMARIZED
ABOVE.

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3. REGIME HAS COME CLOSE TO MEETING BOUMEDIENE'S
PROMISE OF HAVING NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IN PLACE BEFORE END OF
JANUARY. LYNE

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NNN

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